DATE: 03/26/97 PAGE: 1

JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM

IDENTIFICATION FORM

AGENCY INFORMATION

AGENCY: NSA RECORD NUMBER: 144-10001-10096

RECORDS SERIES:

AGENCY FILE NUMBER:

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

ORIGINATOR : NSA FROM : NSA

TR)

TITLE: 2X/O/CUD/T2456-63: CASTRO SPEAKS ON PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S ASSASSINATION

DATE : 11/29/63 PAGES : 2

SUBJECTS:
CUBA, REACTION TO ASSASSINATION
OSWALD, LEE, TRIP TO MEXICO
CUBA, DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY

DOCUMENT TYPE : REPORT CLASSIFICATION : 5

: \$ 1B X

RESTRICTIONS: 1B CURRENT STATUS: X DATE OF LAST REVIEW: 08/10/93

OPENING CRITERIA: ORIGINATION AGENCY'S DETERMINATION REQUIRED

COMMENTS:

CONTAINS SENSITIVE COMPARTMENTED INFORMATION

Released on 08-05-2022 under the John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Act of 1992

[R] - ITEM IS RESTRICTED

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2X/O/CUD/T2456-63 IS 29 Nov 2223Z P Dist: HCF ST 300

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CASTRO SPEAKS ON PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S ASSASSINATION AND CUBAN ECONOMY

FR Havana: Foreign Ministry
Cuban Embassy((A))
Msg Nr: 7555

28 Nov 63

FIDEL stated, "Events are demonstrating the sinister plot behind the assassination of KENNEDY. Contradictions show that OSWALD was made the culprit by the police or was prepared to commit the act with promise of escape, and was assigned activities so as to have responsibility fall on or be insinuated against those whom the perpetrators wished. It is clear that United States reactionaries tried to make Cuba and the world the victims of their criminal designs, even at the price of assasinating their own president. They sent OSWALD to Mexico to request a transit visa to Cuba for later travel to the USSR. Imagine the president's assasin just returning from the USSR and

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MS 19 CN TI 29 Nov 63 Cuban CUDY WS 17312 2X/0/CUD/T2456-63

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passing through Cuba. The visa to the USSR he could have requested from the nearest European country and not have to come to Cuba to later go to the USSR, which is much farther."

He also said, "By 1970 we will be in condition to surpass 10 million tons of sugar and to export it. The economy begins to improve solidly. We have sugar sold at close to 10 centavos for 1965 and 1966. There shortly will be a notable increase in meats and other articles. At the year's end, nougats, wine and grapes will reappear as the result of the development of foreign trade.

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